

■ MODERN LIVING

Galaxy of gourmets honours three gastronomic stars for a cook

Three French culinary experts from the Michelin Guide have awarded Eckart Witzmann of the Restaurant Aubergine in Munich three stars — the highest distinction they can confer on any cook.

Brillat-Savarin, writer and judge who lived from 1755 to 1826, once said: "It is more important for the happiness of mankind to discover a new dish than a new star."

In his professional career, Brillat-Savarin had miscreants beheaded; in his private life he reflected on culinary delights and the psychology of good taste.

In the past, culinary delights were served up mainly to kings, emperors and dukes — and they were the cooks' patrons.

Nowadays the patrons of gourmet restaurants may even be building entrepreneurs such as Fritz Eichbaum from Munich, who financed the Tantris and thus helped Eckart Witzmann to achieve his great success.

The highly praised cook was, despite everything, not celebrated in Munich but honoured in Wiesbaden.

To celebrate this remarkable achievement, 26 of Witzmann's former pupils cooked the celebration meal for their former boss to thank him for raising the status of the chef.

Former pupils from all over the world, many of them now renowned chefs in their own right, came to the Ente vom



Lehel in Wiesbaden, whose chef, Hans-Peter Wodarz, is also a former Witzmann pupil.

And it was Wodarz who persuaded Eichbaum to finance the celebration meal for 80 eaters and drinkers — or rather gourmets.

Paul Alfons Prince von Metternich was the sponsor and mentor of the meal in the Hotel Nassauer Hof, of which the Ente vom Lehel is part. The cost — a cool DM50,000.

Among the guests: Bayern Munich footballer Paul Breitner, who turned up in gym shoes, and the best Swiss chef, Rolf Tschudi from the Hotel Krone in Göttingen. She wore an evening dress.

After the meal, Helmut Moerth, German foodstuffs pope and director of the world's largest gourmet department in a West Berlin department store, enthused: "That was the haute cuisine championship. I have never experienced anything as good and as harmonious in such a delightful atmosphere."

The show began with duck foam. Many guests would have liked three or four helpings. Then came lobster salad with sweet peas and artichokes, followed by pigeon ragout.

There was special applause for what

came next: turbot on cress purée with white butter sauce.

Rudolf Katzenberger, top class gastronomist from the Adler in Rastatt, said: "We timed this turbot with the stopwatch, another three seconds and it would not have been world class."

Ten cooks then presented a Witzmann speciality: calf sweetbreads, a composition in flaky pastry with black truffles, goose liver, leek and lettuce salad, crowned by a champagne sauce.

The refreshing lemon sorbet was followed by saddle of venison medallions.

This led to fiercely controversial discussion about whether or not fillers i.e. potatoes and rice, should be used in modern cuisine. Many experts believe that potatoes or rice are simply necessary to round off a venison meal.

Between the turbot and the calf sweetbread Wodarz presented a musical course. Before the Bavarian Blue cheese there was Chopin, Schumann and Mozart — not in the shape of sweet Mozart balls from Salzburg but with a rondo in D major.

A special rhapsody: gingerbread cakes with Althier Sabayon, figs with raspberry sauce and almond paraffin.

One thing is clear: 100 brave and creative cooks and entrepreneurs have helped to raise the social status of a profession which had sunk sadly.

Thanks to star chefs such as Witzmann, Levy, Katzenberger, Haeblerlin, Bocuse, Lenotre, Wodarz, Keller and Schmidt, the art of good eating has been revived and chefs have found a new professional ethos.

Gastronomy and hotel catering provide jobs for about 400,000 people — more than the total number of skilled workers in the car industry. And there are still another 100,000 vacancies which are far from easy to fill.

Hotel manager Jürgen Rachfahl has just appointed 25 young cooks for his new hotel in Berlin. He says: "The kitchens are slowly filling again with

young people who regard cooking a worthwhile and rewarding activity."

And even ordinary pubs and restaurants learn a great deal from gourmet "In the evenings I sometimes just Wodarz's menu and try to cook same with my chefs" says Roland trampf, landlord and neighbour of Wodarz.

The clever landlord has a number of unusual delicacies on his menu — a to Wodarz.

Agriculture has also been forced producing tastier foods thanks to the activities of ambitious young cooks.

People tend to use more and small beans and fine peas instead of fat beans of the past. And more fresh herbs are being used instead of dried herbs.

Vintners have cut sweet wine production and now produce more dry which goes better with meals.

"Of course we learn a lot from the cooks about how to make food tastier and tastier," says Helmut Zehner in his own four-man business.

"The trouble is none of the chefs tell us how to make it cheaper in terms of exploding food and labour costs are left on our own to confront guests."

The German top cooks and gourmet plan to meet again in three years. By then Hans-Peter Wodarz hopes to have got his three stars from Michelin. He is cooking for all his life to gain this distinction.

(Rheinischer Merkur / Chef und 1. Februar 1980)

Clubs caught with trousers down

The satisfaction of sexual desire is not a worthy aim for a German club (Verein) to pursue.

The Münster Land Court has ruled that The Leisure Club and Social Club and The Club for the Furtherance of Contacts between the Sexes are not genuine clubs in the strict sense of the word and have to be closed.

The reason: they did not have the aim to serve food and encouraged prostitution.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 7 February 1980)

Stuttgart and Hamburg top of cost-of-living league

Stuttgart is the most expensive centre in the Federal Republic of Germany, with Hamburg second.

A survey of 31 centres by the National Statistics Office looked at the cost of 400 items and services.

If Hamburg were taken as the standard with 100, then Stuttgart would get 101.5 points, Frankfurt, which has a reputation for being expensive, 99.9 and Munich 99.

The cheapest of all towns with populations of more than 500,000 is Essen with 95.9. The figure for Hanover is 98.7, for Düsseldorf 98.6 and for West Berlin 99.2.

The cheapest places to live according to the report are Nordhorn (93.9) and Fulda (94.2). Landslut and Weiden Oberpfalz are also comparatively cheap.

These differences may seem slight, being only a matter of 1 or 2 per cent or even fractions of a percentage point.

However, assuming that the average German family spends about DM20,000

a year, every percentage point means saving of DM200.

The comparison does not include the price of rents or running a home. Statisticians say that these are not comparable.

One finding is particularly striking: the media city of Hamburg of all the prices of goods and services in transport and news dissemination were highest of all — 2.7 per cent higher than the average for eight other German cities.

In the closely related sector of services for educational and entertainment purposes, Hamburg is down the league: the prices here are 2.7 per cent below the national average.

As for food prices, which are important for housewives, Hamburg comes fourth.

Only Stuttgart, Saarbrücken and Bonn are more expensive, and Hamburg is the most expensive city in the country for fresh foods.

(Die Welt, 4 February 1980)

The German Tribune

Hamburg, 2 March 1980
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Europe united behind constructive ideas

It has taken the European Community a long time to struggle through to a clear response to the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

It was nearly two months after the Christmas Invasion before the Nine embarked on crisis management appropriate to the serious nature of the challenge and carefully checked and coordinated with the United States.

Even after the Rome conference of EEC Foreign Ministers this is more than can be said of Nato, but British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's idea of suggesting to Moscow that Afghanistan be granted neutral status is an important first step.

It could be the beginning of a constructive solution to the crisis, eliminating the root cause of the trouble rather

than achieving nothing either, even though it may be useful to mention, in a general way, that Austria itself opted for neutrality, thereby regaining sovereignty. It has fared remarkably well so far.

But Austria, the one known instance of successful military disengagement in Europe, was the result of post-World War II Four-Power status.

"Four in a jeep" is by no means the hallmark of Afghanistan, where there is only one occupying power, and it is not in a jeep but, until further notice, in a battle tank — which is a substantial difference.

Lord Carrington's proposal has the further advantage that even though the Soviet Union is the sole occupying power, it provides the aggressor with an opportunity to retain face in the event of a withdrawal (which it has already said will occur in certain circumstances).

For the time being, neutrality is no more than an important keyword. It opens up many opportunities and makes possible the search for a common denominator of peace, a peace in which the Islamic countries in the Gulf region could also participate.

For the EEC, of course, the initiative marks a move over and above mere reaction. Now, for the first time, it has embarked on politics proper, including the various aspects of détente.

First, it has chosen to stand up against a flagrant violation of a pledge to keep the peace by a UN member and Helsinki accords signatory.

Second, and no less important, it has made constructive proposals without taking seriously on how the root cause of the crisis might be eliminated.

Last, Europe's coordinated response is the best means of, third, preventing Soviet strategy from being able to claim certain political side-effects as a success of the operation.

This it might do if, for instance, it

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thao merely discussing possible sanctions or a boycott of the Moscow Olympics.

The root cause of the crisis is, of course, the Soviet invasion of what was originally a non-aligned country.

Lord Carrington's proposal as approved by the EEC is so straightforward and obvious that one is surprised it had not been made before.

Moscow has repeatedly emphasised that Soviet forces will be withdrawn as soon as they have completed their mission of protecting a non-aligned country from alleged external intervention.

A neutral stance by Afghanistan would bear in mind Moscow's stated interest of ensuring that the erstwhile buffer state does not rebound in the opposite direction after the Soviet withdrawal.

Neutral status would also, of course, tally with the interest shared by other states to ensure that Afghanistan is kept out of the competition between systems.

But no effort must be spared to avoid creating the impression that Afghanistan is to be the first Asian state on which a specific status of neutrality is to be imposed.

Inappropriate comparison with Austria



Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher (left), welcoming US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to Bonn on 20 February, said the German government viewed its contribution towards ensuring military balance in Europe, economic aid to Turkey, better ties with Persian Gulf states and a share in old to Pakistan as Bonn's stake in overall Western policy in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. (Photo: dpa)

were able to claim that as a result of the invasion of Afghanistan Nato had been split or there had been divergences between individual European states.

The initially most unfortunate debate about the divisibility of détente (or, for that matter, tension) has made fears of this kind appear by no means exaggerated.

There has been no lack of contradictory announcements indicating uncertainty. There have been consultation gaps between the United States and Europe and also among the EEC Nine.

The first sign was a resurrection of something long thought dead, the special relationship between the United States and Britain, both of whom were determined to adopt a tougher approach.

Bonn and Paris then appeared to be moving closer together, but a proposed Franco-German summit conference failed to take place, letting the wind out of this development's sails.

Besides, the communiqué of the meeting that was held included a section which, taken on its own, could foster misunderstandings that Afghanistan was a regional mishap that, like others before

Brezhnev seeks a way out

Afghanistan) are evidently expected first to make a public admission of guilt and admit to intervention in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan before the Russians will deem to withdraw their forces.

It looks very much as though the Soviet Union is following in Iran's footsteps in overdoing the humiliation of the United States.

Yet Mr Brezhnev undoubtedly made this statement in full cognisance of the EEC proposal for neutralisation of Afghanistan under international control as a means of allowing Russia to withdraw with grace.

The smokescreen of customary allegations about imperialist adventurism; and the like is in reality a covert admission that the Soviet Union has bitten off more than it can chew.

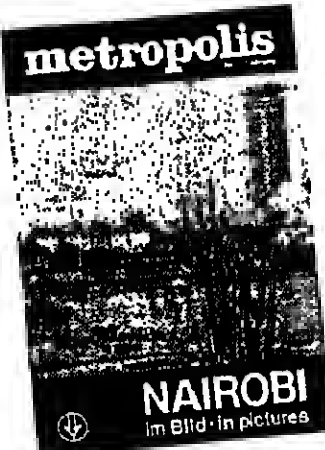
In view of international protest and heavy losses in fighting against a brave and proud nation in particular, the Kremlin has gradually come to realise the fact.

Careful soundings are now needed to find out whether the Soviet Union is genuinely interested in extricating itself from Afghanistan in the foreseeable future.

Due scepticism apart, it is encouraging to note that the time has come for diplomacy when the brasshats seemed to have assumed a commanding presence.

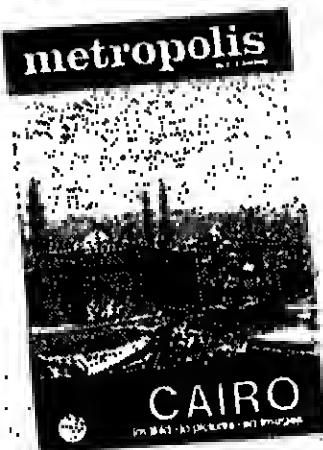
Beard Bridge
(Lübeck Nachrichten, 23 February 1980)

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■ INTRA-GERMAN AFFAIRS

Bonn shelves GDR offer of power, rail deal

The Bonn Government is keeping on ice in the meantime an offer from the GDR involving the electricity supply of West Berlin and the development of the five rail routes to West Berlin.

A few years ago Bonn would have jumped at any such offer, had it been made. And it would not have counted the pennies, either.

Since there are still a number of cooks stirring the broth of Bonn's *Deutschlandpolitik* and since each of these cooks has his own fan club, it is not surprising that a great many different interpretations of this curious new blockage in German-German relations are making the rounds.

The most unusual of them — though clearly taken from real life — is the information that the Chancellor had simply been in a bad mood.

So the package of negotiable issues that Günter Gaus, the Federal Republic's permanent representative in East Berlin, had brought with him from East Berlin was shelved aside at the cabinet meeting. There is much to indicate that Herr

Gaus miscalculated the limits of what he can tackle entirely on his own.

It is also true that Gaus, a former journalist who was appointed to his post by Willy Brandt, is viewed with some scepticism by Helmut Schmidt.

Another aspect to be taken into account is the possibility that the successor to Wischniewsky as the Chancellor's right hand, Huonker, was not as thorough as Wischniewsky would have been in preparing the cabinet meeting.

A closer analysis of the GDR proposals show, however, that they did not founder on such relatively minor obstacles.

Bonn is still interested in developing the access routes to West Berlin. And the electrification of the five rail routes as proposed by the GDR is important also because rising fuel prices are bound to have an adverse effect on the present form of traffic to and from Berlin. The running costs for cars and diesel locomotives will go up.

But West Berlin's electricity supply is seen by Bonn as even more important. This is the other proposal which Herr

Gaus brought to Bonn. It involves the construction of a coal-operated power station near Leipzig that could provide West Berlin with electricity.

But this project was formulated much more vaguely than the rail proposals.

This brings to mind Bonn's disappointment at the failure of a plan involving a nuclear power station in the former East Prussia.

It proved impossible to find a solution that would have made West Berlin's electricity supply totally immune to pressures from the East.

The GDR failed to make an offer on that issue.

Another, though not decisive, reason for the cool reaction in Bonn was plainly and simply money. Though the necessary spending would be spread over many years, the DM3bn that these projects would require is not easy to swallow under present conditions notwithstanding Bonn's interest in German-German projects and relations.

Hans Werner Kettenbach
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 February 1980)

Lessons to be learnt from escape

The cage in which East Germans have to live has become increasingly impenetrable. Yet, once in a while, some succeed with their bid for freedom — like the two young men who recently managed to conquer the death strip and the Wall.

Germans in East and West both rejoiced over the success.

This understandable joy is probably greatest among young people. But we should not permit it to make us forget the misery in the other Germany — a misery that drives people to risk their necks in their quest for freedom.

Every escape attempt from the GDR is a game of Russian roulette. Few win.

The two young men who got away were celebrated as national heroes for a few hours. Let us hope that they will make friends here who will help them lead the life they want — a life without pressure from above.

Let us also hope that those who will try to emulate their feat will keep a cool head. The whole thing is not as simple as it would appear from our TV newscasts.

It is unlikely that the guard will let themselves be caught napping again. The next time they will shoot to kill as if they were hunting rabbits. German reality 1980.

Hans Wolff
(Nordwest Zeitung, 19 February 1980)

Helmut Löhndorf

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 February 1980)



Red Army security officers in a staff car near Checkpoint Charly, Berlin, where on 17 February two office workers in the building on the right had themselves looked in over the weekend and sawed through rear window bars to escape over the Wall to the West.

(Photo: dpa)

Schmidt tells Honecker the story

No sooner had Government spokesman Klaus Bölling told Bonn's full confidence in its permanent representative in East Berlin, Günter Gaus, than a new news item appeared: Herr Gaus had been summoned to GDR leader Honecker for talks.

And as if this were not enough, a news item had it that Günter Schmidt had had a telephone conversation with Herr Honecker the previous evening.

The statement of confidence Günter Gaus was triggered by the fact that the Chancellor had put the 'on a couple of huge German-GDR projects, proposals for which Honecker had brought with him from East Berlin.

The press reported tension between the Chancellor and his East Berlin representative and the opposition started speculating on a possible successor to the post.

Herr Bölling said Gaus had in any case exceeded his limits and enjoyed full confidence of the government. Moreover, the Chancellor had not the brakes on the two projects.

This back-and-forth has given to some concern in East Berlin and probably explains Herr Schmidt's call.

The Chancellor probably reassured Herr Honecker of his government's willingness to continue its dialogue notwithstanding international difficulties.

He probably reaffirmed his desire to let German-German relations come ice-bound. Hans Ulrich Korte
(Bremser Nachrichten, 21 February 1980)

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groups in Europe for cooperation for the Popular Front lines.

On 17 March 1969, seven months after the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia, the Kremlin released the 1954 Molotov Plan, doubtless with the assumption that sooner or later it must gain support.

It did so at the Budapest conference of Warsaw Pact states, aiming at a European conference at which the 'liberalization of European' post-war trade was to be solemnly affirmed.

In 1969 Moscow's main aim, that of liquidating US military presence in Europe, made its first appearance in the stock in trade of Bonn politicians. They sought to use it as a means of gaining greater German leeway before the superpowers.

On 9 January 1969, before the new Ostpolitik took shape, SPD member Egon Bahr, a close adviser of Willy Brandt, confided in US politician Professor Walter F. Hahn that the final stage of a four-stage plan must aim at abolishing both NATO and the Warsaw Pact and replacing them by a European security pact.

The first three stages were to be: recognition of the GDR by the West, treaties with Moscow and Warsaw, troop cuts in Central Europe.

Flying to Berlin to sign the Treaty with the GDR on 21 December 1971, Herr Bahr explained that operation was to be brought to a conclusion during the 80s.

Paul Wilhelm Wenzel
(Rheinischer Merkur / Christliche Nachrichten, 22 February 1980)

■ THE MEDIA

Politics behind a gem of draftsmanship

Careful scrutiny of the treaty between Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein redefining the status of Norddeutscher Rundfunk, a broadcasting authority hitherto run jointly with Hamburg, cannot fail to raise an eyebrow of appreciation for the draftsmanship of officials in Hanover and Kiel.

They have shown consummate skill in putting into words the political views of their respective Christian Democratic Prime Ministers, Ernst Albrecht and Gerhard Stoltenberg.

Critics who claim the treaty is merely a peer carbon copy of the commercial TV network envisaged by the late Konrad Adenauer and inadequate even as an attempt to introduce state-controlled radio and TV in North Germany are making life much too easy for themselves.

The bid could easily prove successful. There can be no doubt as to the intention to replace by straightforward government majority influence the current party-political *proporz* on the board of NDR.

The terms are based on the assumption that the Christian Democrats will retain power in both Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein.

But does that alone make it unconstitutional, as Hamburg's ruling Social Democrats and the SPD Opposition in Hanover claim?

The agreement between Dr Albrecht and Professor Stoltenberg includes barely a single provision that, taken on its own, might be said to warrant allegations of unwarranted state control and thereby justify an appeal to the Constitutional Court.

The threat it represents to free, independent reporting and its illiberal basic tenor do not count to light until an overall view of its content and procedures is taken.

Political parties have hitherto enjoyed

a majority on the board of governors, but they have usually been at loggerheads and offset each other.

The new treaty reduces party-political representation in favour of what are termed socially relevant groups. Only 19 of the 40 governors can now be nominated by the Prime Ministers, Land governments or parties in the state assemblies.

So they will be no more than a powerful minority, and not even a homogeneous one. Political nominees will also be in a minority on the administrative board that appoints the director-general and station managers in Hanover and Kiel.

This arrangement largely corresponds to the treaty governing ZDF, or Channel Two of West German TV. The differences appear to be no more than marginal, but appearances are deceptive.

The ZDF treaty was signed by West Berlin and the 10 Länder, or Federal states. So when trouble occurs the heads of government of all 11 have to reach a consensus. This safeguard will hardly apply at the new-look NDR, a two-man show.

Besides, the ZDF treaty calls for specified majorities on major decisions, such as the appointment of a new director-general. On the new-look NDR board the first past the post will win, as a general rule at least.

So party-political nominees will retain an overriding influence after all, unless, that is, 'socially relevant groups' stand up to them as one man.

Board members are not bound by instructions, the treaty says, yet government nominees can be recalled at will, which amounts to the same.

Initially at least, Free Democrats will have no representation on the new-look NDR board of governors. Only parties represented in both state assemblies will be allowed to nominate members.

But the thin end of the wedge is likely to be a skilful combination of binding 'programme principles' and the legal watchdog panel set up to see they are observed.

Government legal panels hold a watching brief on Channels One and Two (ARD and ZDF), but only with the aim of ensuring government action on breaches of the law by broadcasting authorities or on individual programmes.

But the watchdog role of the new-look NDR legal panel extends to programme trends in connection with observation of the programme principles.

These principles are not, in themselves, unduly alarming. They include respect for life, freedom, belief, the views of others, marriage and the family, the fundamental ethical convictions of the general public and closer understanding between different social, denominational and regional groups.

They form a somewhat pedestrian catalogue but could easily be used by a Ministry official in Hanover or Kiel to

get any NDR staffer into trouble. They amount to censorship in all but name.

If the new NDR men were as keen as they profess to ensure freedom of the Press, they could surely have dispensed with such detailed programme principles.

Radio and TV, like newspapers, are bound by case law, statute law and the constitution. They are not supposed to be tendentious or biased in their coverage. So what need is there for further restrictions?

The answer is obvious, the new look is shortsighted, being based on the current party-political balance.

Safeguards against change have been incorporated, but a mere rotation of supervisory roles is not going to stem the tide if political power does change hands in either Hanover or Kiel.

The attempt to base power over the media on electoral majorities is foolish, to say the least.

Hans Schueler
(Die Zeit, 15 February 1980)

Paper wins an 11th-hour reprieve

"Comrades," he said, "buy shares." And many did. Constituency parties began collecting declarations of intent to purchase shares in units of DM1,000.

Many declarations were made in the fervent hope that they would never be called on to redeem their pledge because the Morgenpost would fold in any case.

But the scheme snowballed, with readers calling round at the city hall to contribute spare cash, so that in the end cash and promises to pay amounted to little short of DM1m.

This was nowhere near enough for a rescue bid for both the newspaper and its debt-ridden printers, but as coincidence would have it amounts to 20 per cent of the share capital in the new venture.

The new majority shareholder, with 60 per cent of DM5m in capital, is a Basic-based Swiss company, Greif AG, which has had to inevitable puns (since the word Greif means grab, as in coming up for grabs), as has the appointment of a temporary manager by the name of Helmut Schmidt.

Shrove Tuesday, the last fling before the hardships of Lent, brought news good and bad for German Social Democrats, both in Hamburg and the country at large.

The good news was that the tabloid daily *Hamburger Morgenpost*, scheduled to close down on 29 February, is to continue publication after all.

The bad news was that party members and faithful readers who had answered veteran SPD leader Herbert Wagner's call to buy shares in the paper to keep it being were going to have to pay up.

Early last December the paper was on the brink of closure and Herr Wagner, deputy leader of the Social Democrats and leader of the parliamentary party, called on delegates to the SPD conference in Berlin for a show of solidarity.

Strike halts two West Berlin dailies

On 13 February no end was in sight to the three-day strike by printworkers of the West Berlin dailies *Der Tagesspiegel* and *Der Abend*.

Marcator Druckerei, the papers' printers, was brought to a halt by composition and process workers on the evening of 11 February in protest at a move by proprietor Franz Karl Maier.

Herr Maier had cut the wages of his seven works council members by up to DM1,000 because, as he saw it, they were devoting too much time to work on behalf of the Betriebsrat, or works council.

No end to the wildcat strike was in sight because the proprietor had made too many polemical statements in the past, according to IG Druck und Papier, the paper and printing workers union.

The strikers said they were not prepared to go back to work until the wage cuts were withdrawn and assurances had been given that no action would be taken against them.

Moves are under way to raise funds for strike pay, since the strikers neither qualify for union strike pay nor, of course, will be drawing wages.

IG Druck regional secretary Gerd Balckin said he fully appreciated his members' move but was unable to pay strike pay because industrial action had not been inaugurated by the union.

Herr Maier said he would be suing for damages, and both company staff and union members suspect he deliberately provoked the clash.

For years the Mercator works council and Herr Maier have been at daggers drawn, and relations are now at an all-time low.

The proprietor, who to this day has succeeded in preventing the establishment of a works council at *Der Tagesspiegel*, is alleged to have repeatedly tried to hamstring the Mercator Betriebsrat.

He claims that the seven works council members have taken 4,800 hours off work (as against a past figure of 2,000 or so), thereby justifying a wage cut.

They say he has only himself to blame. For months the only contact the Betriebsrat has had with Herr Maier has been time-wasting correspondence.

He continually wastes their time with an endless stream of letters on what, in many cases, are non-issues, or so they feel.

Since August 1979 the management has written 90 letters to the works council, which in its turn has penned 120 letters to the management.

The staff feel Herr Maier is determined to force the Betriebsrat to submission. But the strike could well plunge the hard-hit *Abend* even further into the red.

If *Der Abend* were to close down, the printing works would probably itself run into serious difficulties, or so union officials fear.

New readers frustrated by the non-appearance of their *Tagesspiegel* and *Abend* were welcomed in a front-page plug, boxed in red, in *BZ*, a Springer-owned West Berlin tabloid daily.

Springer papers already account for 80 per cent of daily newspaper readership in West Berlin. An editorial in the emergency edition of *Der Abend* was strongly critical of this play.

Volker Skierka

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 February 1980)

FINANCE

Rescue plans drawn up for ailing Turkey

Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel could well become a Turkish Ludwig Erhard, but "the country needs a Marshall Plan".

This is how the Secretary-General of the CDU, Heiner Gelsler, saw the future of Turkey after paying a visit there.

Turkey has been teetering on the verge of bankruptcy for years.

The Marshall in this case is Bonn Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer — not only because of the traditional German-Turkish friendship but also because Germany is expected to provide the lion's share of the Western aid for that country.

Herr Matthöfer has been travelling around for weeks to raise the huge amount of money needed from various governments so that the sick man on the Bosphorus can get his shot in the arm and get back on his feet.

The objective is to enable Turkey, NATO's important ally at the strategic junction between the Soviet Union and the Arab oil states, to fulfil its function.

Herr Matthöfer flew to Ankara last month for direct negotiations with the Demirel government. He stopped over in Switzerland to meet his Saudi Arabian

gold and foreign exchange reserves still stood at 2.12bn dollars.

Then came the Cyprus War which was expensive. But even in peacetime, Turkey's 485,000 troops are a major expense for a poor country.

The oil price explosion did not help, of course.

But the real trouble came when Turkey went overboard borrowing in the Ecevit era in an effort to take the big leap from an agricultural to an industrial country.

Due to structural difficulties and the extent of the mislaid, the DM3bn worth of aid Turkey received failed to do much good. On top of this came military aid for the armed forces to the tune of about DM1bn plus DM400m worth of arms which Turkey received as a gift.

The EEC alone contributed DM900m. Bonn's share was one-third. The OECD provided about DM1.6bn, Bonn contributing DM380m.

IMR analysts saw Turkey's position in the past few years as so disastrous that they refused to provide additional credit.

But then Lower Saxony's Finance Minister Leisler Klep, acting on behalf of Bonn, managed to obtain about DM1bn in emergency aid from the Opec countries — but even this was only a drop in the ocean.

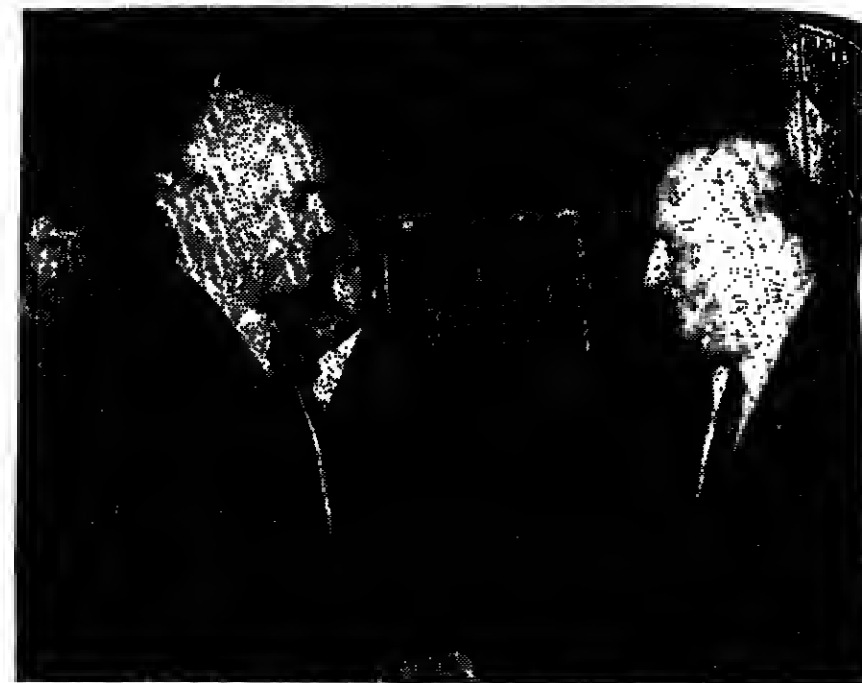
It is obvious that Turkey cannot get back on its feet without a major rehabilitation operation at home and generous help from abroad.

The Demirel government resorted to measures so drastic that they even went beyond IMF demands.

Demirel has, in fact, gone to the very limits and staked everything on one card.

To boost exports and thus earn the sorely needed foreign exchange, he once more devalued the Turkish lira by 50 per cent.

At the same time, domestic production is to be boosted by drastic price increases: The cost of electricity has risen by 120 per cent, fertiliser by 400, sugar



Bonn Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer (left) was in Ankara last month for talks. Western economic aid to Turkey with Turkish Premier Suleyman Demirel. (Photo: AP)

by 80, cement by 55, rail travel and freight by 100, postage by 75, steel by 75 and paper by 300 per cent.

Cigarettes and liquor have gone up 55 per cent. The total additional burden to the economy will be an estimated 330bn Turkish lire by year's end. At the same time, Demirel wants to cut down on the country's bloated bureaucracy. State-owned companies have had to put up with cutbacks in their subsidies, because Ankara wants to promote private initiative in business.

Foreign investors are to be lured to the country by a number of attractive deals.

Turkey's still latent but ample raw materials reserves, including oil, are to be developed with foreign help.

The Demirel government also hopes to induce Turkish workers abroad once more to transfer their savings home.

The initial success of the new price policy was that it took the wind out of the sails of black marketeers.

With it all, Turkey cannot pull itself out of the mire by its own bootstraps. Only in conjunction with massive economic and financial aid will the sick man get well again, but this will take 10 years.

The Turks realise the value of their strategically important position and want to profit from it.

West's trade with Opec loses momentum

The recycling of petro-dollars through trade has become bogged down, according to the Institute for the German Economy (IWF).

Last year, the Western industrialised countries were unable to expand their trade with the Opec nations.

During the first oil crisis the Opec countries used much of their additional earnings to order goods from the Western industrialised nations.

The position now is different: although Opec earnings rose by 65 per cent from 1978 to 1979, their imports from the OECD countries stagnated.

German business, the IWF analysts says, has been particularly badly hit. Germany's exports to Opec fell by 15 per cent in 1979 — twice as much as the average of the Western industrialised world.

IWF does not expect recycling through trade to improve this year. It sees the

reason for this in the fact that the oil producing countries have no need for high-grade consumer and capital goods at present.

Another major factor is that most Opec countries want to prevent a politically uncontrolled increase of their imports.

They give priority to a careful long-term strategy of agricultural and industrial development.

Obviously, reduced exports to Iran play a major role in this trend. The average OECD drop in exports to that country was 67 per cent. Japan suffered most, its sales to Iran having fallen by 81 per cent. Germany dropped about 60 per cent — slightly less than average.

But even disregarding Iran, OECD exports to the other Opec countries fluctuated widely in 1979, ranging from an increase by close to 64 per cent in exports to Iraq to a drop of 35 per cent for exports to Nigeria.

Algeria's demand for Western goods rose steeply (11 per cent) at the beginning of 1979 despite low foreign exchange reserves. Indonesia, on the other hand, blessed with ample reserves, imported less (4 per cent) from the OECD countries.

Nigeria, generally considered an excellent market for Western goods, reduced imports by 35 per cent while Libya, a much less buoyant market, increased its imports by 37 per cent.

The below average drop in German exports to Opec is partly attributed to differences in competitiveness. This has to do with domestic production costs in the various countries and different government measures to boost exports.

Notwithstanding higher oil earnings, Opec investments in Western capital markets are likely to rise only modestly this year.

The freezing of Iranian accounts, the political situation in the Middle East and the favouring by the Opec countries of gold-lately are elements opposing an stepped-up recycling in the capital markets.

(Handelsblätt, 14 February 1980)

THE EEC

Looking inwards to keep a unity of purpose

There is little hope of rescue for a dozen non-swimmers who fall into the water and cling to each other in desperation.

The nine members of the European Community are in a similar position. Apart from Germany, they are all more or less sinking into a stagnation mire, each hoping that the other will put him on firm ground again.

But who is strong enough to pull the weaker countries out of the mire?

Everybody pins his hopes on Germany as the spearhead and locomotive. But there are weighty problems such as the dispute over agricultural prices and the new distribution of contributions to EEC coffers, to mention only two.

The situation is bleak. If the Community were still a tender infant few people would bet on its survival chances.

There can be no overlooking the signs that this community of nine dissimilar industrial countries is no longer developing in the same direction.

The decline, too, is marked by growing differences — especially in inflation rates. This was so in the worst post-war recession in the 70s as it is now with the effort to cope with the energy crisis.

The signs are only too familiar: the lack of unity during the first dramatic oil crisis in 1973/74 prevented action. At that time we were told that the Community would be better prepared to weather the next crisis. But it was no more than a declaration of intent.

To vary an old adage, community evidently makes for weakness in the case of the EEC. The dramatic statement by the president of the EEC Commission, Roy Jenkins, at the European Parliament

Straasbourg, shows the extent of this weakness.

Mr Jenkins said that Europe was today faced with no more and no less than the disintegration of its economic and social order.

And, indeed, there have been enough signs to this effect in the past decade: the collapse of the world monetary system, the world-wide galloping inflation, skyrocketing oil prices, inadequate growth and excessive unemployment.

But nothing was done despite these warning signs.

As Roy Jenkins put it, we missed more opportunities than we created.

Statistical data substantiate this pessimism: while 1979 still saw a 3.3 per cent growth rate in the EEC, this is likely to drop to markedly less than 2 per cent this year.

As inflation rates are increasing again, unemployment — in the early 70s still below 3 per cent — will rise to 6 per cent.

On top of this, soaring oil prices in 1980 will cost the Community an additional 30bn dollars.

To avert the problems, Mr Jenkins suggested that we concentrate on our energy policy, where the situation is disastrous.

The oil crisis forces Europe's industry to speed up its restructuring. The recession, on the other hand, deprives it of the means with which to do this.

A research team appointed by the EEC Commission has come up with a bleak picture. The only partner who has tackled the necessary restructuring fairly earnestly is Germany; and it is simply not enough, the researchers say, for one

As the European Community, prompted by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, tries to shore up its geopolitical dams and erect new ones, an old weakness of the Nine is making itself felt.

Like a millstone around the neck, the bloated Agricultural Fund is about to devour money that would better be spent in strengthening present and future Community members to make them more immune to outside pressure and disintegration at home.

The industriousness of farmers has provided the Community with more milk, beef, wine and sugar than it knows what to do with.

This should have prompted the EEC Commission to freeze agricultural prices — especially in view of the fact that rising unemployment and inflation rates preclude any reason to let the prices go up still further.

After all, the Eurocrats must be as aware as the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry that agriculture's share in the EEC budget amounts to 70 per cent, and is thus excessive.

But the danger signal given by the Chamber has gone unheeded. Since farmers' incomes in real terms have dropped by 2 per cent, the Commission has found itself unable to keep its good resolutions.

A reduction of the cross-border levies would also have meant losses for the farmers. So the Europeans decided to propose a 2.5 per cent increase of the intervention prices.

Agricultural cash still the biggest millstone

This decision to give the social requirements of the farmers priority over economic necessities is indicative of the dilemma of the Community's agricultural policy.

This policy does not primarily serve to provide consumers with reasonably priced food, but to secure the incomes of farmers.

Until this schizophrenic attitude is abandoned we can be sure of being saddled with costly surpluses.

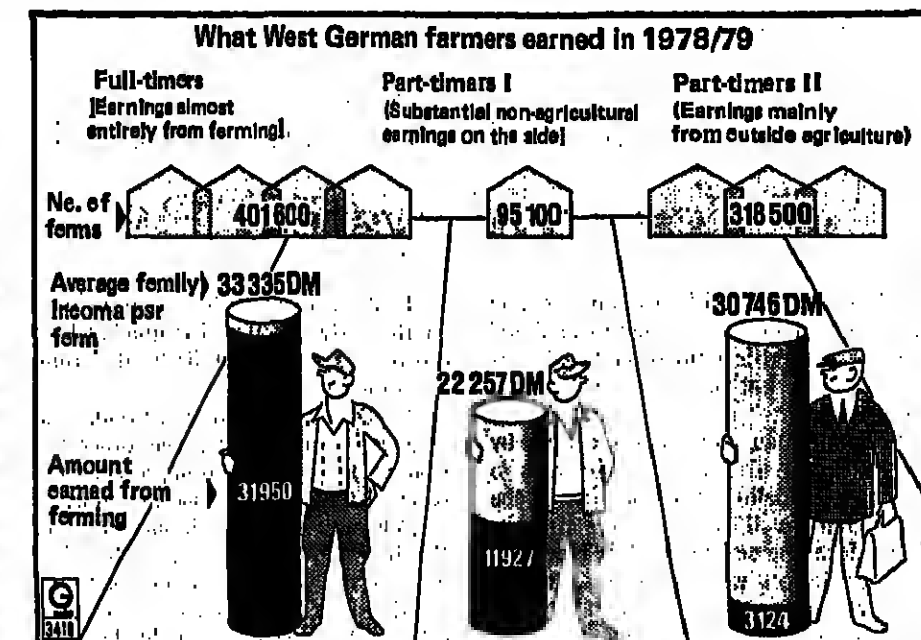
Moreover, it is doubtful whether the Commission's price proposals will be accepted by the EEC Council of Agriculture Ministers. After all, Europe's Farmers' Associations insist on a 7 per cent price increase.

And the ministers concerned are very attached to their farmers — much more so than to the consumers.

A solution to this problem must be found because the issue is more than just peripheral.

The enormous proportion of agricultural spending compared with the overall Community budget leaves little scope for other important Community projects, such as regional and social policy.

And once Greece, Spain and Portugal have joined, they will obviously insist on



country alone to draw its conclusions from the situation foisted on the Community by the oil exporting countries.

The speed of the European convoy is determined by the country with the weakest economy. This makes it obvious that we must master the oil crisis as a community — that is, if the word community still applies.

Within the relatively short term of a year this would primarily entail coping with the distribution consequences of the enormous oil price increase and this includes moderation in wage demands.

In the long term, however, it calls for an adjustment of production structures. And to make matters worse, this important restructuring must begin in the midst of a crisis.

Roy Jenkins wants to put the Community to the test. He wants it to prove through a common energy policy that it is still capable of acting. The challenge involves two major areas, i.e. energy saving and the development of alternative energies.

Success or failure of the two will determine the survival chances of the

Community. But the speedy rejection of a common energy tax shows how little the Community is prepared to make sacrifices.

The clerical call of Mr Jenkins came at the right moment. It is not yet too late to learn from the mistakes of the past and act accordingly.

As the great European, Robert Schumann, put it: "Only those who disregard the lessons of history are condemned to repeat their mistakes."

(Der Tagesspiegel, 17 February 1980)

Increase in revenue essential

The ideas of the EEC Commission in Brussels — probably shared by Bonn — concerning future agricultural prices are intolerable to German farmers. The mood is accordingly bleak.

Compared with the wage increases likely to emerge from the present round of collective bargaining, the Commission's price proposals are indeed pitiful. Agricultural prices rose 2 per cent in 1979.

Granted, the EEC coffers are more than overtaxed, and in view of the sustained surplus production higher prices in the agriculture sector would be an even greater drain.

But this must not induce the Commission to cut back on farmers' incomes still further even for those farmers who do not produce surpluses. Instead it should try to overcome the problem of surplus production.

Drastic proposals, but perhaps not enough

It is praiseworthy that the German Farmers' Association has come forward with proposals which are drastic enough. But it remains to be seen whether they will suffice.

In any event, the European Community will have no choice in the long run but to increase its revenues. This can only be achieved if its share of VAT is increased — unless the Commission introduces drastic measures to provide relief for the strained EEC budget.

Bonn's opposition should guard against making such proposals as an increase of the Brussels share of Germany's VAT. If it is not to lose credibility with its acquisition, it should against the government that it engages in a dangerous policy of deficit spending.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 14 February 1980)

(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 February 1980)

■ AVIATION

Change mooted for traffic control system

Chancellor Schmidt for one is very much in favour of uniform civil and military air traffic control in West German airspace, but the idea seems a non-starter as yet.

The four-man commission set up by the Defence and Transport Ministries to lay down guidelines for a merger of the two systems will not complete its mission before the end of 1980, it is learnt.

If legislation were needed to implement any changes that might be recommended (and experts are not even agreed whether legislation is necessary), amendments to the Air Safety Control Act could hardly come into force before 1981, says Heinz Voss of the Air Safety Control Institute.

The institute has misgivings about being answerable to two Ministries. Both would have to be represented on its board of governors, and the board has to take unanimous decisions.

Air safety control as now practised in the Munich region is recommended as the ideal solution instead.

In the Munich area military control tower staff are integrated with their civilian counterparts, which is very much in the interest of smooth running of both categories of air transport.

But it has not yet proved possible to adopt the Munich system in Frankfurt, Düsseldorf and Bremen because of the priority, enjoyed by Germany's Nato allies.

Problems with air defence control towers have nonetheless been reduced since 1977 by seconding civilian air safety control staff to military establishments in field trials.

The Air Safety Control Institute and its Bundeswehr counterpart have accordingly decided to regularise this co-operation. It is hoped to increase air traffic safety without having to cut back military flying.

On 13 February the institute unveiled a new computerised radar control system in Frankfurt. It cost DM100m and is being installed at the four regional centres in Munich, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf and Bremen.

The new system will first function in Munich. Starting in March, Munich control tower staff will have radar screens on which all the information they regularly need is flashed: flight movements, charts, tables and weather data.

It will replace a system commissioned in the early 70s that has quickly been outstripped because of its limited computer capacity.

DERD-MC, the new system, was commissioned in 1976. The order was won in 1977 by Raytheon, a US company, with Siemens as subcontractors.

Wolfgang Philipp, vice-president of the institute, says the new system is a great improvement. Destinations and additional information are clearly indicated and the system is unlikely to be troubled by breakdowns.

In theory the three computers involved are only likely to break down simultaneously every seven-and-a-half years. Besides, the new system is easy to service and maintain.

Entire electronic modules are simply replaced, with the result that staff difficulties are feared: there are going to be redundancies among maintenance engineers.

The next generation of control tower improvements should include colour screens and screen display to replace graph paper display.

Last year nearly 1,250 people died in air crashes around the world: a tolerable toll, you might think, compared with 13,000 road deaths in West Germany alone and given civil aviation's 1979 passenger total of 745 million.

Yet in statistical terms relative safety in air transport has undeniably taken a slight turn for the worse.

In 1979 about 1,100 passengers and 150 crew members flew to their deaths, whereas the previous year's toll was fewer than 1,000 passengers.

It would nonetheless be wrong to infer any significant trends from this deterioration. The only tendency that can perhaps be said to have continued was a decline in the number of serious plane crashes.

With the years there has indeed been a fall in the number of serious crashes, but when one does happen, the number of deaths tends to increase.

Last year three crashes jointly made their mark on the statistical landscape. In May a DC-10 crashed in Chicago, killing 272 people. In November 156 died in a Pakistan International airliner. Later that month an Air New Zealand



This is one of the new DERD-MC computerised radar systems now being phased in at control towers in Munich, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf and Bremen. Developed by Raytheon in the United States and Siemens in West Germany, it will cost an estimated DM100m.

(Photo: Bundesanstalt für Flugsicherung)

DERD-MC is one of the most up-to-date air safety control systems in the world, Herr Philipp says.

Rudolf Metzler
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 February 1980)

Dutch-German aerospace firm splits up

VFW-Fokker of Bremen and, Amsterdam, West German and aerospace companies that many years ago, are to split.

According to VFW in Bremen two have resolved, after detailed negotiations, to part company. The two and Amsterdam divisions of managed independently of each other.

The split is said to have been initiated by the Bonn government's insistence on structural reforms in the man aerospace industry.

Bonn wants Messerschmitt-Böhm in Munich and VFW in the to join forces.

Before the decision to go separate ways was formally reached on 29 January Fokker in Amsterdam had commissioned a survey indicating that prospects were bright for an independent Dutch division.

The prospects for VFW's independent operator are to be set in a report.

The joint enterprise was established May 1969. At the end of last year it had a payroll of about 11,000 in Germany and 7,900 in Holland.

(Die Welt, 12 February 1980)

The odds in favour of survival

DC-10 crashed over Antarctica, killing 257.

Between them these three accounted for nearly two thirds of last year's civil aviation fatalities, and since one major crash can have such an influence on accident statistics, comparisons of safety in the air are holding less and less water.

A review of last year's air crashes certainly dispels one longstanding illusion. If you feel charter flights are more dangerous than scheduled ones you are mistaken, as statistics have indicated for several years.

Figures for recent years certainly fail to support any such assumption. Last year all major crashes involved scheduled carriers, mostly prestige airlines.

Lufthansa, for instance, lost a plane. So did Swissair. The upshot has been a domestic debate whether the distinction between charter and scheduled airlines might not be outmoded.

The debate was launched by Lufthansa North Rhine-Westphalian charter operator that bears most of the hallmarks of a scheduled airline.

The feeling in the trade is that charter may still be formal legal distinction that operationally charter and scheduled flights are in many cases identical.

Much the same goes for respectability. Many regular airlines are increasingly using their fleet for occasional charter runs. The borderline between scheduled service and charter run is becoming increasingly difficult to pinpoint.

The New Zealand flight to the South Pole that ended in disaster was flown by a regular airline yet was undoubtedly charter run in character.

Yet the crash must clearly be not a regular airline crash. It would be also to assume that a regular airline would regularly crew to work a charter run between two scheduled flights by over the same aircraft might apply different safety or other standards.

Besides, charter operators must run what, to all intents and purposes, amount to regular services arranged to order.

Continued on page 9

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Water, the infinite resource, is not so limitless after all

Breaking the news of higher water rates in the Hamburg area, Hamburger Wasserwerke last summer wrote telling consumers that:

"General cost developments and investment needed to ensure regular water supplies in future oblige us to revise rates."

Between 1950 and 1978 daily per capita water consumption in West Germany went up from 85 to 136 litres. By the turn of the century it is expected to reach 400 litres.

Between 1963 and 1974 industrial consumption alone increased from 9bn to more than 12bn cubic metres.

So private households have not been especially to blame for the increase. Industrial demand has been the chief culprit.

Continued from page 8

In advance and bearing all the hallmarks of scheduled flights.

In recent years — last year particularly — charter operators have been spared serious crashes.

If accident statistics are examined with a view to establishing safety records of the two civil aviation categories the only conclusion that can be reached is that scheduled service operators have been less "safe" lately.

Airlines, or so the figures would appear to indicate, have grown definitely more "dangerous" than charter operators, especially last year.

But conclusions such as these are of no practical value. It would take only one bad crash by a charter operator to tilt the scales in the other direction for the year in question.

For the 70s as a whole it is nevertheless fair to say that nowadays there is no longer any significant safety difference between scheduled flights with regular airlines and charter runs with a charter operator.

Peter Odrich
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 February 1980)

There seems to have been a spate of tanker collisions in recent years, with oil slicks wreaking environmental havoc in the English Channel, the North Sea, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean.

With vast expanses of marine habitat being laid waste, a number of West German companies have been prompted to develop devices to mop up oil slicks.

Efforts to conserve the maritime environment have been stepped up to such an extent that experts are already talking in terms of a second generation of developments.

Hitherto America and Britain have dominated this particular market, but the German challenge will be featured at the third international oil-pollution prevention exhibition and conference, in Hamburg.

Loppec 80, to be held in September, is part of a larger trade fair, the International Exhibition and Congress "Ship, Machinery, Marine Technology."

Innovations in sectors such as oil-pollution prevention are bound to rely on government financial backing, but private finance and upkeep are no less important.

In the pre-industrial era watermills did the donkey work, harnessing forces of nature in the form of a babbling brook or stream.

Nowadays enormous amounts of water need rechanneling to meet industrial demand. Manufacturing processes have grown so complex that a succession of stages is needed, each using water.

It may take only 20 litres of water to produce 1 litre of beer, but a kilogram of steel takes 200 litres, a kilogram of rice 2,000 litres and a motor-car fresh off the assembly-line 380,000 litres.

Where is the water to come from? Seventy per cent of the Earth's surface may be covered in water, there may be enormous areas where surplus rainfall appears to be the problem and rivers, lakes and oceans may seem to provide an inexhaustible supply.

They would appear to be an inexhaustible supply because there is a water cycle too, and it turns full circle, continually replenishing the system. Yet water is growing scarce nonetheless.

The seven seas comprise 1.4bn cubic kilometres of water of which 450,000 are continually evaporating, 102,000 precipitating as rainfall and 130,000 line the clouds prior to following suit.

Seawater accounts for 97 per cent of the world's supply. Glaciers and the polar icecaps make up a further 28m cubic kilometres, or about two per cent of the total.

Ground water, on the other hand, totals a mere 8m cubic kilometres, or about 0.6 per cent, and half is at inaccessible depths of below 1,000m.

Rivers and lakes transport 0.2 per cent of the world's water supply. They and the accessible ground water must cope with demand. So water, seemingly an unlimited resource, seems set to become a valuable commodity.

Water may be available free of charge when and where it rains, but if it has to be piped to the consumer it starts costing money.

Last year Federal and state govern-

ment and local authority expenditure on waterworks of one kind and another totalled roughly DM7.5bn.

Of this total about DM1.8bn went towards drainage and sewage treatment in rural areas, according to the Bonn Ministry of Food.

But this is a level of expenditure on a par with what meeting the demand for gas cost, and water pollution, or rather measures to counteract it, account for much of the cost.

German and French industry, Swiss and East bloc manufacturers, everyone seems to pump waste unconcernedly into the waterways.

As recently as last year no fewer than 22 tonnes of carcinogenic substances were shown to have been pumped into the Rhine alone.

Carbon, ammonia, chloride, sulphate, nitrate and chlorine pollute the waters in industrial areas. All must be reduced to specific levels unless residents are to be exposed to serious danger.

Aachen University of Technology estimates that 1,000kg of chlorine and 1,370kg of nitrogen a year find their way into sub-surface water as a result of the use of artificial fertilisers alone.

So it is not only the rivers that are being polluted; ground water cannot be given a clean bill of health either.

Water boards handle 4.7bn cubic metres a year, of which 2.7bn are ground water, 1.4bn come from rivers and lakes and a mere 600m from springs, the purest and cleanest water supply.

Water boards handle 4.7bn cubic metres of water a year, and most is used by industrial consumers, including power stations.

Power stations, for instance, currently use 17.9bn cubic metres of water a year, and water for use as a coolant has become a problem.

As power utilities concentrate on increasingly large power stations the problems facing ground water supply and the temperature of river water will increase in magnitude.

Research into oil-slick control is stepped up

This is why a Bremen shipyard and an aerospace company based in the city hit on the idea of designing a suction dredge hopper equipped not only with a high-powered oil slick vacuum cleaner but also with equipment for dredging sand and chippings.

This versatile purpose-built craft is designed to take up to 6,000 cubic metres of oil aken in choppy seas with waves of up to two metres or more.

Yet it has such a shallow draught that it would operate without difficulty in the shallows off the North Sea coast.

Another model is a catamaran 35m (115ft) long and 18m (59ft) wide fitted out with twin vacuum cleaners capable of siphoning about 1,400 tonnes of oil an hour from the water surface.

It has a cruising speed of up to 18 knots and is equipped with fire extinguishers capable of aiming 26,000 litres of extinguisher a minute at the flames.

Olsau 1, designed and awaiting construction by a shipyard in Brake, between Bremen and the North-Sea coast on the River Weser, stands a fair chance of making the grade.

It has an enormous hinge system that enables the hull to open out into twin halves at a 65-degree angle.

Travelling at a steady three knots the strikingly designed craft can take up substantial quantities of oil from the sea.

Its own tanks hold up to 5,000 cubic metres that can be pumped on board tankers or lighters lying alongside the Olsau, so that in 24 hours as much as 15,000 cubic metres of slick could be swept up.

The ship is claimed to work smoothly in waves of up to six metres (20ft). It too can be used as a dredger when not in use to clean up oil slicks.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 February 1980)

Industrial consumers account for a further 12.3bn cubic metres in consumption. In the Cologne area alone they use 4.2bn cubic metres of ground water a year.

The water table has sunk 4 to 10 metres as a result, while in Frankfurt and vicinity there have already begun to die for a similar reason.

The Vogelsberg area, a nature reserve south of Frankfurt, has always been regarded as copiously supplied with water. Yet even here land is running to waste as water runs short.

Water boards are trying to avert catastrophe by providing sewage works and drainage, taking samples and imposing increasingly strict regulations on industrial consumers.

Water might not seem a serious problem in Germany, but we are now having to pay the price for conspicuous waste and headlong growth.

In energy, the environment and water resources the price to be paid is a high one. No-one can deny that over the past 20 to 30 years resources have been squandered, not husbanded, in all sectors of so-called civilised life.

Part at least of the gigantic progress that has been made in industrial regions has been wasteful exploitation.

Germany is fairly well supplied with water, yet even here the cost of setting matters right will be so high that part of the so-called growth will need investing.

Last year the bill came to DM7.5bn. It cannot fail to increase.

Ernst Willenbrock
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 17 February 1980)

Tougher line on pollution offences

Environmental offences are no longer to be treated as minor misdemeanours. By the terms of the Bill passed by the Bundestag on 13 February culprits will be prosecuted for criminal wrongdoings.

The Environmental Offences Act re-drafts existing offences in a separate section of the penal code. In many cases the sentences against environmental offenders have been made tougher.

Pollution with specified dangerous repercussions renders the offender liable to up to 5 years in prison, or as much as 10 years if toxins released are a danger to life and limb.

Existing recommendations have been coordinated and standardised by the new draft, which combines them in a single section of the penal code.

The government's original draft has undergone a number of amendments in the Bonn Bundestag. The penal code section now includes provisions from the Atomic Energy Act, for instance.

Stricter legal provisions now apply to negligent handling of radioactive substances and ionising radiation.

One Bundestag amendment includes a passage on what is termed active atonement, a concept hitherto unknown in the context. MPs reckoned it might at times be more attuned to the spirit of the law than a conventional sentence.

It involves an offender not being sentenced if he is willing to voluntarily offset the damage and abandon his breach of environmental law before worse has happened.

The Bundestag ruled that in an instance such as this the state may reasonably dispense with its right to mete out punishment.

(Handelsblatt, 14 February 1980)

This year shortwave radio in Germany celebrates its fiftieth anniversary. On 26 August 1929 ZEESEN shortwave station began regular transmissions. Together with the DEUTSCHLAND-SENDER it broadcast a selection of German broadcasting companies' programmes. That was the beginning of German shortwave and external broadcasts.

The Deutsche Welle, which began its programme service in 1953 followed the tradition of the World Radio Service. Its transmissions in German and thirty-three foreign languages

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■ THE ARTS

Safeguards needed as major collection almost goes to foreign auction

Bavaria has succeeded in keeping in Germany one of the country's major private libraries, a treasure house of Baroque and Enlightenment manuscripts and books. Augsburg University is to take over a collection that might easily have been auctioned piecemeal at Sotheby's.

The Oettingen-Wallerstein princely library, by far the most important German collection still in private hands, is to stay in Germany.

After weeks of uncertainty as to the outcome the library was finally sold to Bavaria for DM40m rather than auctioned at Sotheby's, who had reckoned the sale would realise DM57m.

More by good luck than good management, it seemed the sale abroad of a major German art collection had been forestalled at the last minute.

The ravages of war have wrought destruction among Germany's stock of irreplaceable works of art, but they alone have by no means been entirely to blame for the art drain.

The Nazis had a tendency to sell overseas works of art they considered degenerate or debased, and they were not the first to sell what is arguably a nation's cultural birthright.

The Reich government of the Weimar Republic promulgated a decree of 11 December 1919 aimed at putting an end to this practice, but with only limited success.

After the Second World War legal safeguards were not much more effective, although Hesse passed legislation to prevent a sellout in 1948 and Bavaria followed suit in 1949.

The situation did not really improve until 1955 when Federal legislation placed obstacles in the way of exporting works of art deemed of national importance.

Yet there have still been a number of instances of the one that got away, as in 1971 when the Lyvensberg collection was auctioned in Cologne.

The Cologne municipal authorities missed out on the opportunity of buying a panel from St Katharinen and a south German museum was too late in lodging its objection to the sale.

While the authorities were busy with the cumbersome legal procedure needed to ensure that the panel remained in Germany the highest bidder quietly packed it in the boot of his car and sped across the border with his contraband.

Amendment to Act is required

Given mishaps such as this Bonn would surely be well advised to amend the 1955 Act. It is, after all, 25 years old, and other countries enforce stricter safeguards.

In France, for instance, every work of art that changes hands must be submitted to a panel of experts at the Louvre before export is permitted, regardless how high a bid has been made by whom.

The panel's ruling is final and binding. It has, incidentally, often been generous; a wholesale ban is by no means imposed.

Britain has evolved a similar procedure. Some years ago arguments arose over the proposed export of Rembrandt's

Death of Actaeon, for which a US buyer had bid DM25m.

The painting was promptly declared part of Britain's cultural heritage and its export banned until funds had been raised. It stayed in Britain and can still be seen in the National Gallery, London.

The 1955 Act requires each German Land to compile and submit a list of works of art that should not be allowed to leave the country.

Once, in 1961, the Federal Interior Ministry published a catalogue of listed items. Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg headed the list with 47 and 34 items respectively, the other nine Länder were also named in comparison.

Hesse listed 19 items, North Rhine-Westphalia, a state of rich industrial patrons of the arts, 11 and Lower Saxony's paltry seven.

The Rhineland-Palatinate, 4, and Bremen, 2, barely deserve a mention, while Berlin, Hamburg, the Saar and Schleswig-Holstein all saw fit to list a solitary item.

Berlin's was Antoine Watteau's Crossing to Cythera, Hamburg's a St Martin's cup dated 1606, the Saar's an altar dating back to the 10th or 11th century and Schleswig-Holstein's a cup with a lid dating back to the first half of the 16th century.

The Act may not apply to state-owned collections or to Church properties, but by European standards there can be no doubt whatever that it affords insufficient protection.

The safeguards can hardly be regarded as adequate either. Imprisonment is not ruled out for offenders, but as a rule all that is envisaged are fines of up to DM300,000.

But with the prices major works of art are now raising, fines of this order, while not exactly chicken feed, are unlikely to deter. They make lawbreaking seem a trivial offence, like jaywalking.

Collectors who abide by the law are nonetheless given some incentive to do so. Since they are no longer entitled to dispose of their property in any way they want, tax incentives are provided.

Land commissions on which art experts, museum and the trade are represented provide advice and expertise. The Act may not protect the nation's cultural heritage but it does afford a measure of protection for private property.

Owners who are obliged to sell works of art need have no fear they will have to part company with art-treasures for a song.

In the Oettingen-Wallerstein collection's case there was every hope that the library might be kept in Germany. The 1961 list includes 11 library items, 7 of which were in the princely collection.

They are manuscripts worth more than DM12m, according to Sotheby's estimates, and their auction would be unlikely to raise the full potential if bidding were restricted to a strictly limited number of potential domestic buyers.

But this applied only to the star items in the collection, which includes some 1,600 manuscripts alone.

The only way of imposing a wholesale ban on them leaving the country would have been via the provisions of the Bavarian Historic Monuments Act, and the attempt would have rested on shaky legal foundations.

The same applied to the library of

printed books, about 140,000 volumes mainly dating back to the 17th and 18th centuries.

Had Bavaria imposed a wholesale ban pending domestic purchase of the collection as a whole before agreement had been reached with the previous owners, it would hardly have fared better than by the terms of the deal concluded.

The Oettingen-Wallerstein library, most recently housed at Harburg, near Donauwörth, is an uncommon stroke of good luck such as seldom occurs in the history of the arts.

The princes of Oettingen were well-known patrons of the arts in the Middle Ages. The smaller Heidelberg Lieber MS testifies to their generosity towards artists.

Family of bibliophiles for centuries

The Manesse Lieder MS even goes so far as to describe the house of Oettingen as exemplary for chivalrous virtue, and since the late 17th century, if not earlier, the family have been manic bibliophiles.

Count Ernst von Oettingen declared in his 1669 will that the library was to remain inalienable family property, thereby establishing a tradition.

Whenever the family estates were split the elder son was expected (and often had to solemnly pledge) not only to take good care of the stock of books and manuscripts he had inherited but also to enlarge the collection to the best of his ability.

For more than a century the library was housed in Vienna. When members of the family were appointed to positions at the Habsburg court they were unwilling to let the collection out of sight even for a few months.

Later, when they retired to their estates, they packed the books and took them with them, regardless of transport difficulties.

In 1761 the collection was shipped in 50 enormous chests from Vienna to Donauwörth heedless of the risk of losing in transport a collection it had taken centuries to amass.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the Goethe era, the family feverishly collected the latest editions, bought the moment they appeared in Mannheim and Mainz.

The composer, Haydn, called on the family en route from Vienna to London. Mozart too was a welcome visitor. The family's passion for literature by no means excluded the other arts.

One member of the family persuaded Canon Wallraf, a Cologne prebendary, that books deserved collecting. Art-lover Wallraf went on to bequeath Cologne one of its major museums.

The Oettingens played a part in the 19th century emergence of Germanic studies as an academic discipline. Pioneers of editing and textual criticism such as Karl Bartsch and Moritz Haupt often consulted works in the collection, as did historians.

Prince Ludwig plunged his family into debt with his mania for books, but as early as the first third of the 19th century he threw his library open to the public. The library was sold to the state.

"All works of the intellect belong to the nation, to mankind," he said, "thus, thus alone, do they crown the owners with the gold of their riches."

But in the end he was obliged to go company with part of his collection between 1811 and 1821 he embarked on a buying spree of major European paintings that indebted him so heavily he had to sell.

More than 200 paintings were by King Ludwig I of Bavaria, while of the collection was bought by National Gallery in London.

The library, hitherto sacrosanct, now also been "nationalised." Ten years ago Bavaria entered into negotiations to buy manuscripts and books, reduced rates on the understanding they were to stay in the Harburg collection.

This bid failed but terms have been agreed, and although a higher price has been paid, the agreement is said to befits a democratic society.

The library is to be transferred to stock and barrel to Augsburg-Untertürkheim where one can but hope that it will ther studies of 17th and 18th century civilisation.

The Herzog August Library in Wolfenbüttel, whose librarians have made both the philosopher Leibnitz and Enlightenment dramatist and critic Lessing, is currently being converted into research centre for Baroque and Enlightenment studies.

A similar centre could now be in offing at Augsburg. Baroque poet and dramatist Birken was heartbroken when he had to leave Wolfenbüttel and return to his native Nuremberg.

"Gute Nacht! Ich zieh von hinnen meine Pegnitz ruffet mir. Aber meine beste Sinnen, Niedersachsen, lass ich dir." (Farewell, I'm on my way to the River Pegnitz. But my best regards, Lower Saxony, are forever yours.)

Students of Birken and his contemporaries may now no longer have to trace his steps to Wolfenbüttel. Augsburg may soon prove an equally satisfactory treasure house of source material.

Paul F. Reitz
(Rheinischer Merkur / Christ und Welt, 2 February 1980)

Festival makes tour of Rumania

Rumania will shortly be hosting the second arts festival from the Federal Republic of Germany to be held in the East since 1945.

It will be held in Bucharest and other Rumanian cities from 14 to 21 January, following a festival in Budapest, Hungary, in early January.

Vocalists will be featured, John McCormack's Midsummer Night's Dream, danced by the Hamburg State Opera company, opening the festival.

Bochum Schauspielhaus are Claus Peymann's production of Torquato Tasso, while the Theater Krefeld, Munich, will present the penny Opera.

There will also be a jazz festival exhibition and a symposium by the South-East Europe Association in Munich. Five contemporary West German cinema films will likewise be shown.

In Hungary the festival was held in Budapest, whereas in Rumania it will be held in other cities besides Bucharest. Last November a West German institute, the first of its kind in a "Pact country," was opened in Rumanian capital.

(Sddeutsche Zeitung, 2 February 1980)

■ THE THEATRE

Contemporary stage gets boost from former Buenos Aires choirboy

The premiere at Stuttgart's Kleines Haus of the Argentinian composer Mauricio Kagel's *The Exhaustion of the World* (a "scenic illusion", as the subtitle dubs it) achieved its objective.

Kagel wanted to offer something that would be both pleasurable and stimulate deeper thought.

He has been living in Cologne since 1957, and his latest work is certainly a climax that will earn our contemporary music theatre new sympathies.

Kagel, the enfant terrible of a few years ago, has meanwhile become a classic.

His latest work, commissioned by the Württembergisches Staatstheater, is a collage of speech and singing, of instrumental music and tape recorder sounds, of liturgical passages and scenic variety.

Total theatre in 11 captivating scenes; starting with Genesis and the words "In the end, God exhausted heaven and earth. The earth was a wasteland. Smog lay over the waters and the spirit of God floated in the sewage"; and ending with "God's meatgrinder".

The creator of this *Exhaustion* started the audience with his many talents. He was responsible for music and text, he directed the performance, he created the sound effects and supervised the entire work performed by the choir and orchestra of the Süddeutscher Rundfunk radio network.

Kagel acquired his musical experience as a choirboy in Buenos Aires, and it is therefore not surprising that his idea is based on a concept formulated in the 15th century: the beginnings of the world are also the beginnings of its decadence, its ordained exhaustion.

For the composer, the creation of the world is identical with the invention of music, the big bang with which the universe came into being and its first sign of life.

Adam displays a large flute instead of the phallus and Eve's lap contains a bell. Thus the two communicate through music.

In the third scene, "God's Zoo", the audience is confronted with a scurrilous menagerie consisting of a hippopotamus



Kagel's *The exhaustion of the World*, showing in Stuttgart.

(Photo: Stefan Odry)

with a violin mouth and a cow with bell udders.

Of course, this exscenting excursion into the mire of origins in the history of music cannot be developed further to the central question of this "scenic illusion" — the justification of God in the face of the misery and evil in the world.

Kagel shows that God — "perhaps he has been drunk from beginning to end" — is a very human invention so that in the "hymn and procession of man in His image" the tables are turned: "We are sorry for You, Brother Image."

Celebrated and maligned Patrice Chéreau (he directed *The Ring* in Bayreuth) picked Munich as the venue for a unique polisperspective: the "Charta 77" dissidents trial in Prague.

The "play" was first staged last December at the Paris *Cartoucherie* of Ariane Mnouchkine.

Essentially, the whole thing is a public reading of the records of the October 1979 trial in Prague.

The texts were recorded from the memories of the few relatives of the six



The judge speaks in the stage version of the Charta 77 trial.

(Photo: Winfried Rabanus)

Actors reconstruct trial of Czech dissidents

accused who were permitted to attend the trial.

The reading took place in a Munich streetcar depot hastily equipped for the purpose.

Many well known actors, directors, writers and members of Munich theatre troupes provided their talent without payment. The reading was performed on behalf of "Aida" (International Association for the Defence of Human Rights and the Freedom of Opinion of Artists) before an audience of 900. The premiere was recorded and has meanwhile been broadcast by a major German network.

The Munich performance turned into an impressive though muted political demonstration.

Applause was also muted. After all, can anybody clap with any enthusiasm after the closing sentence: "Vaclav Havel was taken to a country prison a month ago. He may receive no visitors and is entitled to one letter only a month."

The play was deliberately preceded by a major publicity campaign because the performance was not intended as just any theatre performance but to promote a good cause.

And stars provided not only their work but also their resounding names. They included Simone Signoret, Yves Montand, Pavel Kohout, Mariate

teology", is a thoroughbred theatre man, enabling him to present such ideas thrillingly and with a good bit of irony.

Seemingly naive fairy tale pictures are linked to form an allegory in which time ceased to exist.

The terse text is a composition made up from the biblical original, from Bach's cantata German, distilled from concrete poetry, semantic techniques and chains of associations.

The transparency of chamber music and melody dominate.

Handed down sound constellations ranging from major triple chords via alternating chords all the way to twelve-tone clusters draw the listener into the trap of the seemingly familiar only the startle him out of it again.

Singing soloists, speakers, choruses and the large orchestra were supplemented by tape recording montages: the elements roared, thunder rolled, fire crackled, the surf raged, seagulls cried, cicadas chirped, bells tolled and motors droned.

Among the soloist singers, Rebecca Littig, Elka Estlingbaum, Helmut Holzappel, Klaus Hirte and Klaus Bertram (voice of God) were particularly outstanding as were the actors Jutta Meyer zur Haide (Eve), Mario Wicke, Wolfgang Höper, Benno Iffland (Adam) and Jan-Geerd Buss.

The sets were designed by Helmut Stürmer.

The well-rehearsed singing chorus (Ulrich Eister) was supported by a movement chorus and a quartet of puppeteers.

Bernhard Kontorsky conducted all this vast apparatus with delicate musical verve.

The applause was enormous. Though the audience was somewhat confused by Kagel's acoustic technology and his technique of composing, it certainly got its money's worth.

Susanne Ulrici

(Bremer Nachrichten, 14 February 1980)

Mnouchkine, Tom Stoppard, Hans-Christian Blech and Volker Schlöndorff — all acting on behalf of "Aida" which was formed in Paris several months ago.

Chéreau deliberately staged a theatre performance without claim to artistic quality.

The question was not how to put politics on the stage but how to use theatrical means to convey political ideas. And so the effectiveness of the performance rested with its very terseness and lack of artifice.

The sentences in the trial depicted in Munich are well known: engineer Petr Uhl, five years; mathematician Vaclav Benda, four years; journalist Jiri Dienstbier, three years; TV director Otta Bednarova, three years; psychologist Dana Nemcova, two years suspended; and dramatist Vaclav Havel 4 1/2 years.

The collage makes it clear how biased was the manner in which the judge conducted the trial.

He made no effort to hide the fact that his ruling that the accused were subversives guilty of agitation against the state was a foregone conclusion.

At the beginning of the performance, Chéreau said: "We want to bear witness." "Aida" did exactly that.

Carmen Zacharias

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 12 February 1980)

■ EDUCATION

Book to help teachers tell about Nazi era



A book is now available to help teachers teach about the Nazi era. Teachers in this country often find the subject of the Nazis difficult to deal with.

Recognising this, the Teachers Union, in conjunction with the Central Council of Jews in Germany, has produced "National Socialism as a school subject".

The book, which the authors term "an aid in planning instruction," is just that. It is divided into a number of aspects and provides an ample list of literature.

There can be little doubt that this small volume will alleviate some of what the authors call "the teachers' dilemma."

The dilemma, of course, is not so much due to the vastness of the subject as to the helplessness of older teachers who feel guilty of a sin of omission and acquiescence.

But younger teachers also have their problems inasmuch as they are faced with labours time and again.

And then there are the problems of adolescents who feel that they have nothing to do with the problems of the older generation.

They learn about the Nazi era from a certain distance that makes personal and emotional involvement appear superfluous.

It would have been understandable if

the authors of the book, most of whom were persecuted during the Nazi era, felt bitter about this helplessness of the teachers. But there is no sign of it in their work, no accusation, no lecturing and no admonishing finger.

But the reader is gently told by the authors where the mistakes lie that have created so much misunderstanding and lack of interest among secondary school students.

If they are not told about the roots of antisemitism in our society they are bound to view the disastrous events of the 30s and 40s as "a one-time phenomenon isolated from the overall context of society, a phenomenon that appeared suddenly in 1933 and disappeared with equal suddenness in 1945."

The only explanation they come up with is that all blame rested with Hitler himself and perhaps a few of his stooges.

"To see the cause of the pogrom in a very few persons of the era prevents insight into the susceptibility to prejudice of every one of us."

The teacher must explain to his students that the antisemitism of the Nazi Weltanschauung could only develop under the protective umbrella of a widespread latent antisemitic attitude in society as a whole.

"Only thus," the study goes on, "can the student understand how an uncleaned prejudice can be used through political channeling and to what excesses it can lead."

The authors consider it wrong to view the persecution of Jews isolated from the racist ideas of Nazi ideology. To forge a link between the persecution of other minorities and the bloody suppression of Slavic people is not tantamount to overlooking the significance of the Jewish fate.

So far as the resistance is concerned, the authors suggest that the students be given a better possibility of identification.

They should not only be told about the prominent leaders of organised resistance but also about the heroes of everyday life who remained inconspicuous and yet put their lives on the line.

More, the study holds, should also be said about the *gleichschaltung* of public life through control of the masses and manipulation of the media.

Emphasis on misery as a result of war

More should be said about the interplay of economic and social measures and the overall political programme of the Nazi dictatorship.

Emphasis must be laid on the effects of the war and the misery of the people as a result of it.

The main objective of the authors is set out at the very beginning of their work: any democratic society is in danger of acquiring dictatorial traits given the right set of circumstances.

A high degree of sensitivity and perception for the beginnings of a concentration of power and values that disregard human beings are the prerequisites for a conscious political involvement.

Ada Brandes
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 17 February 1980)

Pupils look at what the papers say

For the ninth graders in this school begins with reading the papers. They are part of a project involving 550 students between 11 and 16 in the Dürer gymnasium.

The 26 boys and girls have finished reading their papers with a teacher, Heidi Müller, opens the report on a report headlined "Front in Moscow Hardens" which the class had read the day before.

The foreign words and other unfamiliar terminology such as "intensity" and "sanctions" have been written on the blackboard and are explained.

One child complains: "There are many fancy words. The journalists try to write more clearly."

The class is then divided into groups and they proceed to analyse reports under various aspects: now it comes about at the editorial office has it been arranged? Does it fit the necessary information?

The children are then asked to write a brief summary of the three-column article. The first answers start coming after about 10 minutes. A lively discussion ensues.

Quite naturally, the verbal logic is fiercer over the pros and cons of the Moscow Olympics. It holds that sport has nothing to do with politics and that the Russians might humiliate. Some ask: who knows they will react?

The homework that day is to write a letter to the editor or a commentary on the issue.

The pilot project was started last year to familiarise children with the press and to teach them how to use their knowledge and information for their own benefit.

They are also to learn to find their way through the various sections of newspaper.

The project was suggested by the Bonn press and is being financed by two Dürer savings banks. The teacher attended a media seminar to prepare them for the task.

Children receive the local edition of the *Aachener Volkszeitung* free of charge for five months.

Emphasis is placed on political economy and, perhaps even more so, on social aspects.

Stock market reports, for instance, must be stripped of their mysticism. Students are taught to understand such municipal policy issues as: why swimming pool to be built in a particular spot? Or does the construction of autobahn destroy the landscape?

The first fruits of the scheme are shortly after it began: the young paper readers have started a small initiative against the overcrowded buses and have written letters to the mayor and protested to the city council.

Teacher Konrad Kohnen: "Newspaper reading can be taught and should be part of general education. It can be a passive learning into activity."

Every two weeks the student are given a questionnaire on what they have gathered from the press.

The questionnaires are evaluated and returned to the students so that they can see for themselves how well informed they are. The work is not graded at all, the whole project is to arouse interest in the press and to make newspaper reading fun.

Anne Brandes
(Städtischer Nachrichten, 8 February 1980)

■ MEDICINE

Breakthrough in sight for insulin production

By the 90s, if not earlier, the mighty microbe will be harnessed to manufacture industrially the insulin diabetics need to inject daily, scientists claim.

There should no longer be any need to go to the trouble and expense of extracting the life-saving hormone (it reduces the blood sugar count) from the pancreas of cattle and sheep, as at present.

Harnessing bacteria to synthesise insulin, far from being mere wishful thinking, will definitely happen, although it would be rash to forecast the exact year.

Progress is reported from both the United States and West Germany in genetic manipulation to make bacteria produce alien protein.

Genetic engineering seems set to be used in manufacturing insulin, interferons, antibiotics and growth factors, to name but a few substances likely to be synthesised.

Advances in gene surgery over recent months have made the target appear to be within reaching distance, and insulin-producing bacteria cultures have already been bred in a number of laboratories.

But biochemists do not imagine for a moment that such scientific results can be transformed overnight into full-scale industrial output.

We are still far from the stage at which bacteria-made insulin might be commercially marketed.

As yet scientists have contented themselves with experimenting on bacteria cultures of a litre or so, whereas several hundred litres would be needed for industrial production.

This would require special permission. Genetic engineering is felt to be such a potential danger that work with manipulated bacteria has been restricted to small quantities for fear of unforeseen consequences.

Besides, the new synthetic insulin would need to be approved by the Federal Health Office, West Berlin, as a permitted drug, and approval is only given after exhaustive trials.

But epoch-making changes in biochemistry were nonetheless heralded by the discovery of two enzyme systems in the 70s.

Restrictive enzymes recognise specific sequences in genetic substances, or deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), and cut them out. With their aid biochemists can manufacture and investigate clearly defined fragments of genetic substance.

A second group of enzymes, DNA ligase, introduce genetic substance into foreign bodies. They enable loose ends of DNA to grow together again.

Bacteria-induced insulin synthesis shows, however, that conversion of scientific knowledge into industrial reality is less simple than might be assumed.

Genes cannot be cut apart like pieces of paper. They cannot be indiscriminately glued together again either.

The required enzymes must first be manufactured or purchased, reaction products must be carefully separated and analysed and so on.

So genetic engineering will never be a hobby that can be carried out in a small way in the attic or potting shed. It is a more complicated business than that.

Human insulin such as laboratory bacteria would need to reproduce is a protein with a molecule consisting of two chains and a total of 51 amino acids, 21 in the A chain, 30 in the B chain.

The two are linked at two points by sulphur atoms. In genetic terms this means that the two insulin chains are determined by separate genes.

A team of US scientists have succeeded in artificially producing these two genes under laboratory conditions and introducing them into colt bacteria, thereby synthesising insulin A and B chains.

The two have also been isolated, but linking them by means of a sulphur bridge has proved uncommonly difficult biochemically.

Output has so far been too small to be significant, and it remains to be seen whether the problem of bridging the gap can ever be satisfactorily solved.

Biochemists in the Frankfurt research laboratories of the Hoechst company have for some years been bankrolled by the Bonn government in their bid to synthesise insulin by means of bacteria.

They have adopted a different approach to the problem, correspondents were recently told in Königstein, near Frankfurt, and they seem to have made substantial progress.

Their work has inspired such confidence that bids to bring about a total biochemical synthesis of the diabetes drug (work in progress since the mid-60s) have been abandoned in favour of genetic engineering.

Unlike the US scientists the Frankfurt biochemists make bacteria produce only a natural precursor of insulin, not insulin itself.

This proinsulin complex can then be broken down biochemically, as it is in the human body. The two sulphur

bridges are thereby built more or less automatically.

In this way the Frankfurt biochemists enlist the services of nature. Information needed for insulin synthesis is contained at two points in the genetic substance that are then mysteriously linked.

To use a photographic simile a "negative" is incorporated between the genetic substance proper and the end product, insulin.

This "negative" no longer contains the complete genetic data of the organism, merely a part: the instructions the specific cell needs.

Specialised cells in the Langerhans islands, part of the pancreas, shed parts of the genetic substance during transition from genetic substance to its "negative."

The parts lost are the ones that lie between the two insulin genes, and this is what makes the US scientists' work so difficult.

If this "negative" could be smuggled into bacteria they ought to be able to produce insulin. But it is unfortunately neither easy to synthesise nor easily extracted from the human pancreas.

By coincidence, however, a Hoechst research scientist knew from experience that these specialised cells are not spread over the entire pancreas in monkeys; they occur in clumps and are thus much easier to isolate.

There turned out to be no difference between A and B chains of ape and human insulin. The two molecules were linked in the same way, so progress became a more practical proposition.

Genetic information for insulin synthesis was gained from Langerhans island cells taken from the pancreas of monkeys and then converted into the "negative" (as is the case in the human body), dispensing with unnecessary genetic substance ballast.

Genetic information prepared in this way was then incorporated in colt bacteria. Micro-organisms changed in this manner are capable, as trials showed, of manufacturing the required precursor of human insulin.

Konrad Müller-Christiansen
(Neinischer Merkur / Christ und Welt, 15 February 1980)

Vaccination gap shows up TB risk

The risk of unvaccinated children contracting TB is underrated, claims a report published by the social hygiene and public health department of the Free University, West Berlin.

The survey, compiled by Professor Herbert Genz, covers the years 1975-1977, during which about 1.2 million children were born in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Routine TB jabs were not carried out during this period because a suitable serum was not available, existing stocks having been junked on the strength of a recommendation by the World Health Organisation.

While the WHO claimed that the one serum was not effective enough, another had to be withdrawn because it had too many undesirable side-effects.

Initially this gap of two years or so did not unduly alarm the medical profession. Estimates showed there to be a relatively slight risk of babies and infants contracting tuberculosis.

Besides, experts were convinced that such cases of TB as might arise would be spotted in good time with the aid of the tuberculin test.

The circumstances thus provided an opportunity of checking the progress of new-born babies that had not been given a TB jab.

In one hospital alone 469 children had to be treated for the disease, and about half proved to be serious TB cases.

This was much more than estimates had led doctors to expect. Estimated TB frequency over a period of 15 years was exceeded 7.6 times in two years among children who in 1975 to 1977 had not been vaccinated against tuberculosis.

The number of TB cases can be expected to increase further as years go by, too. A new, improved vaccine is now available.

Asked what conclusions might be drawn from his survey, Professor Genz recommended TB jabs especially for population groups who are particularly liable to contract the complaint.

These include the children of foreign nationals and children from families with TB case histories. But further study was needed to show whether the reintroduction of routine vaccination was advisable.

Angela Heck
(Die Welt, 2 February 1980)

Universities seek new outlook

Germany's universities want to put more emphasis on international development policy. This was resolved at the Conference of West German Rectors (WRK) in Bonn.

They decided to develop a cooperation model for universities in the North-South dialogue.

WRK holds that university research into the problems of developing countries should be stepped up. Additional incentives for such research, which is to promote the general understanding of "development", are to be provided through subsidies.

They called for partnership arrangements that would be in the interests of both the developing country concerned and the German university.

There are often difficulties teaching the 30,000 full-time students from developing countries what will be useful in their countries.

This could best be done at the partnership universities that could develop curricula for supplementary studies tailor made to suit the Third World countries concerned.

The rectors also presented a model project intended to counter the difficulties arising from the shortage of qualified university professors prepared to work in developing countries.

This would at the same time help to satisfy the Third World demand for such academic personnel.

The model would require the Company for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), which handles Bonn development projects, to finance such academic staff for five-year periods.

The first year would prepare the person concerned for his work abroad; the

second and third would be spent in the field; and the fourth and fifth would serve to review the development work and become reintegrated at the home university.

The universities would be saddled with the burden of having to keep the field worker's post open for two to three years.

For scientists and teachers either permanently employed or enjoy civil service status, arrangements for a tempo-

rary leave of absence must be made that would entail no disadvantages resulting from the work abroad.

The rectors held that the proposed measures would make the development work of the universities more meaningful.

The Conference also dealt with Bonn's Research Report VI. In this connection the rectors called not only for direct project promotion but also for a stepped up promotion of basic research.

So the rectors asked for more funds to be allocated to such scientific and research organisations as the German Research Society and the Max Planck Society.

(Handelsblatt, 13 February 1980)

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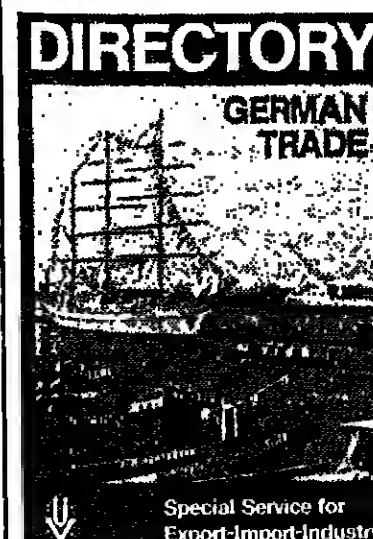
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CHILDREN

Technologically compelling toy fair - but with gimmickry

Few of 130 new designs to emerge at the Nuremberg toy fair were genuine novelties. Only those using sophisticated technology compelled any urge to play with them.

Many toys were pure gimmicks which were unlikely to capture anyone's imagination for any length of time. Those who like to get at the root of things and see what makes them tick could pick and choose among a wide range of experiment sets. One of them was good for 100 experiments.

There was also an endless selection of do-it-yourself kits, among them digital indicators from the wide field of computer technology and the electronics laboratory dubbed by the makers "Infrared Practice" for the transmission and reception of data as well as for remote control of toys.

Hovercraft the likely

favorite

Generally, new designs in the vast field of remote control for automobile, ship and aircraft models have improved performance. These toys have also become relatively cheap.

Among the models themselves, a hovercraft is likely to find many takers.

Do-it-yourselfers of the less sophisticated kind will delight in an apparatus with which to make silhouette portraits or silk flowers or, in a newly developed set, to produce copies of icons.



There was also a do-it-yourself mini hothouse.

Train aficionados found interesting supplements to their rolling stock and rail system, among them an infrared warning device and automatic green and red light switches triggered by the trains themselves.

A new era has also dawned for highway systems with overtaking manoeuvres, additional automobile models, traffic control etc.

The range of remote-controlled vehicles has also increased. There were those controlled by sound and radio waves and those that use digital infrared control mechanisms. The toys themselves ranged from sports cars to forklifts, and there was even an amphibian vehicle.

A US maker presented a fully programmable vehicle capable of 1,000 different manoeuvres, the whole controlled through a little device similar to a pocket calculator.

An Italian manufacturer's piece de resistance was a dirigible driven by solar energy.

In fact, alternative sources of energy have become interesting for toys intended for the playground.

A German company has come up with a mobile module system for all

sorts of carts, wheelbarrows, automobiles, etc., all of it with an integrated solar propulsion. But the real dream toy for any boy was a Japanese mini motorbike for racing drivers aged six and over. The superbike (which our regulations bar from the roads) uses very little fuel.

Among the vast number of stuffed toys depicting such TV stars as "Scooby-Doo" the dog, the crazy feline "Top Cat", "Pardington Bear" and "Winnie the Pooh", the Muppet Show's inimitable "Miss Piggy" certainly took the cake.

The makers of games were probably the most imaginative of the exhibitors this year.

But, frequently, a closer look showed that many of the apparent novelties were only old ideas with a bit of electronics added.

Genuinely new was a private eye set where the sleuth has to follow ecoustic computer signals.

Another set called "Maniac" tests the



A small boy with his answer to the energy problem: solar-powered toy car, one of 250,000 exhibits from countries in the Nuremberg toy exhibition.

player's sense of music and the through light and sound signals.

The height of bad taste was a "Glas Pendulum". The manufacturer obviously tried to ride on the present horror wave.

Four pollbearers open a coffin and a comes Drecula with a ghost pendulum - probably for the goose-pimples effect.

But only those who asked themselves whether the whole thing was symptomatic for the situation of the toy business in general were likely to have come out in goose pimples.

Ursula Meier

(Handelsblott, 7 February 1980)

Book report aims to influence role casting by authors, publishers

A group in the Ruhr town of Moers has completed an investigation into the way women and girls are depicted in children's books.

The study is aimed at authors and publishers who, it is hoped, will act on some of the conclusions.

The Emancipation Work Group Moers used a questionnaire to evaluate 42 children's books that were borrowed between 14 and 53 times from the lending libraries of Moers and Mülheim-Ruhr in 1977.

The conclusion: both sexes are about equally represented numerically. But some books have only males as principal characters.

Gratifyingly, the so-called typically womanly attributes such as tenderness and passiveness are not exclusively female properties.

Tender care, helpfulness and friendliness are equally distributed between the sexes.

Women and girls are as frequently described as active as are boys and men - the exception being books with male principal characters only.

But "active" does not always mean a departure from the typical role clichés. Courage remains a male domain while fear is attributed to the weaker sex.

Only a few - primarily Swedish - books depict partnership. In one instance the father holds his sick son in his lap, gives him a drink of water and takes his temperature.

Both parents look after the lad and before bedtime it is the father who bathes the daughter.

In another book, it is the father who dresses his daughter and in yet another one a boy puts the doll to bed.

In an animal book the young one is put to bed jointly by its bear parents.

Generally, however, the traditional role of the woman is still over-emphasised, says the report. Women and girls are too frequently found occupied with typically female tasks like bathing and dressing the children, doing housework and shopping.

Rarely does a boy or man do any housework.

In one of the books, the father is shown cooking a soup, washing the dishes and watering the flowers.

Driving seems to be reserved for men. Women at the wheel, in normal life a matter of course, are almost totally absent.

Reading a newspaper is also a male prerogative. Fathers read the paper and smoke while mothers knit or look after the baby.

The mother's trademark in one book is her knitting and the father's the pipe.

The picture books still seem to be unaware that 37 per cent of our working population are women. And while men are depicted in 53 different jobs, ranging from prime minister via numerous trades all the way to a farm worker, working women are the exception although 31.6 per cent of our female working population have children under the age of 15. Female professions are also restricted to a mere 17, most of which are consi-



dered typical for that sex such as nurse, saleslady, kindergarten teacher, waitress, teacher and secretary.

The only technical occupations in which women are shown are a master craftsman and a dredger operator.

A couple of detailed examples: in one much borrowed book all identifiable occupations are those engaged in by men only. They ranged from pharmacist, drivers of taxis, buses and lorries, a farmer driving a tractor to an antique dealer.

The same applies to another popular book in which all jobs were held by men. They included a zoo director, a zoo keeper, a photographer, a newspaper reporter, a hotel porter, a doctor, a policeman and a waiter. Only a saleslady dealing in sweets and postcards and a secretary belonged to the other sex.

These examples show that children's picture books fail to demonstrate to girls that they are suited for all professions. Instead, they prepare the girls for a function as mother and wife or typically female occupations.

How should meaningful and future oriented children's books be? They should stimulate the imagination and creativity of children while entertaining

end should help overcome handed down and antiquated role clichés within family and society.

There should be no games in which the roles depend on sex. Instead, boys should be shown playing girls' games and vice versa. By depicting both sexes playing with technical toys, potential interests should be developed.

It is important to show partnership attitudes in families, the father looking after the children and the housework and the mother not being occupied with purely female activities but also doing such work as painting, pepping the walls and driving.

An end should be put to the unrealistic depiction of the occupations, taking into account that one-third of our working population are women.

Children know them as doctors, dentists, filling station attendants, bus drivers, etc.

Children should also be confronted with the books with women in the trades and technical professions, as carpenter, garage mechanic, communication technicians, engineers, etc.

The Moers study is not representative but it does show trends. It remains to be seen whether authors and publishers will take a critical look at the books and change things.

Jutta Henke/Elvira Amthor

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 February 1980)

SPORT

FC Cologne settle on new man at the helm

Karl-Heinz Heddergott, 53, is to take over from Hennes Weisweiler as trainer of Bundesliga soccer club 1. FC Cologne at the end of the season.

Weisweiler has agreed to terms with Cosmos New York. Heddergott has spent the past 13 years with DFB, the West German Football Association, where he is currently in charge of coaching.

He was under contract to the DFB until 1984, but the go-ahead has been given and Cologne's board chairman Peter Weiland announced the news on 15 February.

"Once Weisweiler had served notice to quit we were keen to sign either Heddergott or Jürgen Sundermann, with Heddergott as my personal preference," Herr Weiland said.

"I am happy to be able to say that we have been able to come to terms with an internationally acclaimed soccer coach. We have agreed on a two-year contract that automatically continues for a season at a time if notice to quit is served by neither party."

Heddergott will reportedly be earning between DM15,000 and DM18,000 a month, plus bonuses. He has recommended Klaus Röllgen as his successor to the DFB and will be leaving to take over at Cologne on 1 July.

Like Georg Gewilczek, Udo Lattek and Dettmar Cramer, Düsseldorf-born Heddergott has abandoned the security of a DFB post and opted for the swings and roundabouts of life as a Bundesliga soccer club trainer.

On 14 February he and Cologne manager Thiele went to Frankfurt and the DFB for finalisation of the transfer, including details of pension rights.

"We wanted to come to terms quickly so as not to be caught on the hop later in the season," Herr Weiland says. Jürgen Sundermann, it seems, had proved too hesitant.

Sundermann, currently with Grasshoppers Zurich, is keen to get back to Bundesliga soccer in West Germany but has been angling for a contract with several clubs.

"His persistent hesitation largely

clinched the issue," says Weiland. "But that is not to say that Heddergott is a stopgap. We had no choice but to try for both."

Sundermann, with Bundesliga experience, would, perhaps, have been the lesser risk, but there was no guarantee he would have been more likely to deliver the goods.

"If I were always to allow myself to be swayed by public opinion I would never be able to go by my own hunches. We would never have signed English soccer star Tony Woodcock, for instance. Many people were opposed to that idea too."

The Cologne playing staff were long felt to prefer Sundermann, were he to be available, even though he was likely to impose a ban on signing autographs and other disciplinary measures.

But they were pleased to learn that Heddergott had been signed. Cologne's international players Cullmann and Zimmermann said he was one of the country's few coaches whose specialised knowledge, personal authority and educational skills were more than a match for Bundesliga trainers.

"He naturally lacks experience as a professional trainer," says Bernd Cullmann. "But he has always been on close terms with Bundesliga trainers as a talent scout for the DFB."

"He knows what it's all about, alright."

Soccer's legal experts in quandary

Munich soccer star Paul Breitner has put football officials in general and referees in particular on the spot with an appeal to the legal panel of DFB, the West German football association.

He appealed against a fourth yellow card (which means an automatic one-match ban) and the panel upheld his appeal, at least in part.

The ban was not waived but the panel



Silver Medal at Lake Placid

Jane Apple, 22, was runner-up to Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein in the giant slalom at Lake Placid. Her silver medal was a badly needed boost for the West German team at the 1980 Winter Olympics. With only four days left she was only her country's second Olympic medal-winner.

(Photo: dpa)

16-year-old gymnast calls it a day

Annette always set an example," says chief coach Ursula Hinz. "She had everything: talent, hard work and ambition." Annette is star gymnast Annette Michler, 16.

But Fräulein Michler, who currently holds no fewer than six national titles, has decided to retire from top-flight gymnastics - with only four months to go to the Moscow Olympics.

She broke the news to her chief coach at a 15 February training session in Frankfurt before even changing for the first hour in the gym.

She had been looking forward to Moscow but the pressure proved too great for a champion who was unable to reconcile the demands of top-flight athletics with the needs of a 16-year-old schoolgirl.

She has decided to give pride of place to school and private life where a work-out in the gym used to enjoy priority. But a variety of reasons have contributed.

For some time she has been plagued by a foot injury that will just not heal. She is also not doing too well at school.



Annette Michler

(Photo: Rzepka)

although her father was recently able to tell Frau Hinz that Annette was now doing better at her lessons.

But this was mainly because she had to rest because of her injured foot and this gave her more time.

"To get back in form I would now have to train seven hours a day, I could no longer put off the decision; I had to make the choice. It was either school or the Olympics."

She was also in trouble with her local coach, Henne Sealmann. In a newspaper interview Annette's father had said she was no longer making progress, implying that her coach was to blame.

Frau Sealmann promptly withdrew as coach. This was four weeks before the world championships in Fort Worth, Texas, last November.

A Fort Worth Annette Michler proved a failure. So did the entire women's team. So the coaches of other Olympic prospects called for trials in Frankfurt in mid-February.

But Fräulein Michler did not take up the challenge. She had decided to retire. Her mother is a little relieved, her father a little disappointed, her former coach says she can understand what led to the decision.

Chief coach Hinz is worried it might start a chain reaction.

Barbara Müller

(Die Welt, 19 February 1980)



Karl-Heinz Heddergott

(Photo: Werek)

Besides, he is an intelligent man and should have no difficulty in getting used to the new environment."

Karl-Heinz Heddergott is the author of a soccer training manual that has been translated into most of the world's major languages. He has been on FIFA's training staff since 1963.

He read sport and English at Cologne from 1948 to 1951, qualifying as a soccer trainer under Hennes Weisweiler and Sepp Herberger, as whose assistant he later worked.

Before joining the DFB in 1967 to take charge of coaching and run the national schoolboy squad he worked as a regional staff coach for football associations in the Rhineland, the West, Westphalia and Central Rhine region. dpa

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 16 February 1980)

ruled that an appeal against the referee's yellow card was permissible (Appeals against the red card, which means immediate dismissal and suspension, already are.)

DFB legal experts have been taken by surprise. The ruling is to be discussed at the next meeting of Bundesliga club chairmen.

The ruling that automatic bans could not be challenged (no right of appeal) was only included in the DFB statutes at last year's AGM in West Berlin.

Soccer officials will now have to revise this and other sections where they are on shaky legal ground.

"In academic legal terms it was an extremely courageous decision," says Paul Märzhäuser of MSV Duisburg, who sat in on the panel's proceedings as an observer.

The panel held that players have a constitutional right to appeal. So the 'no appeal' clause is null and void and the practical repercussions are most alarming.

Achaz von Thümen, chairman of Eintracht Frankfurt and, like Märzhäuser, a member of the DFB's League Committee, says the new ruling will prove a nail in soccer's coffin.

In future any player who is shown his fourth yellow card can appeal against the referee's decision because it entails an automatic match ban.

Referees are particularly unhappy with the Frankfurt ruling. TV has already undermined their authority on the field. The right of legal appeal threatens to make life even more difficult for them.

Herr Maika of the Referees Society is incensed: "This decision makes us unique and at odds with the entire world. Uefa and Fifa do not permit appeals in cases of this kind and surely never will."

dpa/sid

(Frankfurter Allgemeine, 11 February 1980)